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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/756,866	01/10/2001	Jai Young Park	P56284	6207

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, STEVEN H D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2665

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DATE MAILED: 07/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/756,866

Applicant(s)

PARK, JAI YOUNG

Examiner

Steven HD Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/10/01.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Drawings*

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the space switching must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

2. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawing sheets are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant

will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over admitted prior art in view of Norman (USP 6011802).

Regarding claims 1 and 3-4, The admitted prior art discloses an add/drop cross connection apparatus connected between east and west aggregate units of a synchronous digital hierarchy system, comprising an aggregate unit matching device for providing matching with the aggregate units; a higher order path connection circuit for subjecting received higher order path data to cross connection by space switching; a lower order path connection circuit for subjecting received lower order path data to cross connection by space switching (Page 2, lines 7 to page 4, lines 3 and Fig 1, page 6, lines 4 to page 7, lines 13). However, the admitted prior art fails to disclose a selector for selectively delivering the data supplied from said aggregate units, higher order tributary device, and lower order tributary device, wherein said selector delivers said data to said higher order path connection circuit or lower order path connection circuit according as said data is the higher or lower order path data, via a single path to a higher order tributary device and a lower order tributary device. In the same field of endeavor, Norman discloses a

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selector for selectively delivering the data supplied from said aggregate units, higher order tributary device, and lower order tributary device, wherein said selector delivers said data to said higher order path connection circuit or lower order path connection circuit according as said data is the higher or lower order path data wherein a selector connected via a single path to a higher order tributary device and a lower order tributary device (Figs 5-8, col. 10, lines 59 to col. 14, lines 30, In Fig 5 and 7 discloses a standard ITU interface 174 and 188 for receiving a signal from high "STM-1 or E3" or "DS1" low order tributary devices and delivery to higher or lower order path connection circuit in Ref 176 and 180 and 186 and the signal received from ref 186 for transmitting to Ref 176 for delivering to the low or high tributary devices such STM-1 or DS1 device).

Since, Norman suggests the use of ITU standard interface for using to transmitting and receiving the tributary signal from a high or low tributary device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to apply an ITU standard interface which includes a selector for selecting a path for transmitting the tributary signals to low or high order path connection according to type of the received tributary signal as disclosed by the Norman's system into the admitted prior art. The motivation would have been to reduce the cost of the add/drop multiplexer and integrate the low and high device into single network.

Regarding claim 2, the admitted prior art does not disclose higher order path connection circuit is constructed in the same module with said selector. However, Norman discloses an ITU standard interface for interface with a SDH standard adaption. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to integrate the SDH standard adaption "said higher

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order path connection circuit" with said selector "an ITU standard interface" into a single module in order to build an universal or compact unit.

### *Conclusion*

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Yoshida (USP 6169753) discloses network node for receiving and transmitting SDH signal.

Trotta (USP 6292485) discloses an add/drop multiplexer for receiving the signals and demultiplexing them into lower and higher tributary signals and multiplexing lower and higher tributary signals into STM traffic.

Ellis (USP 6256292) discloses an add/drop multiplexer for receiving the signals and demultiplexing them into lower and higher tributary signals and multiplexing lower and higher tributary signals into STM traffic.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven HD Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-8848. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy D Vu can be reached on (703) 308-6602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Steven HD Nguyen  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2665  
6/27/04